

Do we really want 300 offenders out of prison?

For years, lawyers, judges and citizens have worked hard to put those selling and making drugs behind bars. First of all, we don't want these criminals out on the streets, possibly making more drugs and selling them to our young people; and secondly, many of these people are considered "hardened" criminal who will be out among innocent people.

But, now there is a special committee on judiciary who recently endorsed and passed Senate Bill 123 out of committee that would allow the release of nearly 300 prisoners from the Kansas prison systems.

The Kansas Sentencing Commission and the supporters of Senate Bill 123 claim these offenders have no history of trafficking or manufacturing. Besides, the prisons need more beds and we as taxpayers don't want to build more prisons.

However, it's a fact that many of these offenders are dangerous to our communities because they are the ones who have been dealing drugs and operating the methamphetamine labs that expose our residents to dangerous and toxic chemicals associated with meth labs. Probably if they are released from prison, the law officials will have to again start investigating and arresting them. Law

officials are already underpaid and there is little money in their budgets for more enforcement.

Most of the offenders have already been through a treatment program and the taxpayers have paid for it. The treatments are not cheap and often, they don't work for any length of time.

According to the proposed bill, the offenders will be required to pay for treatment but if they can't pay for it — guess who will be picking up the bill — the taxpayers of course. And, if they don't take the treatment, they have to go back to jail for up to 60 days for a shock effect. Okay — more taxpayer's money because it is an unfounded mandate to counties and county jails.

Now, it is the state's responsibility to maintain and operate prisons for people who endanger our communities. Releasing these people back to our communities is in direct conflict with this responsibility.

Yes, the state is broke! And, yes, keeping up with prisons is going to cost money! But, do we really want these people out on the streets?

Contact your senators and representatives today.... tell them what you think and how you feel. This may be one of the most important calls you will ever make. —Karen Krien



ACROSS THE U.S., RESERVISTS ARE MOBILIZING ...

Hangin' With Marge

Innocent Questions of a Child

By Margaret Bucholtz

Many times as adults we get to enjoy questions that our children or grandchildren ask. I have had many occasions to enjoy conversations with my family. One I want to share left a great impact on me.

As I was riding home with my granddaughter, who was about seven at the time, she casually asked me, "Grandma do airplanes hum?"

I told her I didn't know as I have only ridden in one twice but why did she want to know. She said, "When

I was in the airplane I heard this humming noise." Not remembering that she was ever in one, I quickly asked her "What airplane did you ride in?"

She quietly said, "Remember Grandma when I got my two fingers cut off I flew to Wichita in that airplane?" Then I remember and asked her if she thought it hummed. She told me, "Yes, there was a hum, but I didn't know if it was the airplane or God humming to me." As my eyes filled with

By Margaret Bucholtz



tears I could only answer, "Honey, I am sure it was God, He was with you."

How many times in the role as a parent or grandparent have we wanted to take the little ones in our arms and make the hurt go away, only to realize that alone we can't do that, but we are so glad to know that there is one in higher power that is there with them.

Karen's Korner



It was cold this weekend so the best place I could think to be was snuggled up in a chair watching television. Since I have discovered the Home and Garden channel, I have wanted to watch nothing else but, even though I work, I have seen most of the shows by now so I switched to the Learning Channel where they were "Trading Spaces."

This show has friends and neighbors trading houses where they decorate a specific area in two days. At first, I was fascinated. They had this big guy wearing shorts and red tennis shoes, another Oriental fellow and this pregnant lady with black hair and burgundy lipstick — these people were the decorators heading up the projects. They had some good ideas but they also had some "off-the-wall" ideas. One wanted to paint the couch hot pink and another painted a Mexican blanket on the kitchen ceiling. They paint the fireplaces, the walls are more often a red or bright green — there was even one that was brown, they take up carpets and take down drapes.

As the fascination turned to horror in some of the episodes, I thought "who would be crazy enough to let someone come in and do whatever they wanted including getting rid of family keepsakes, painting Grandma's desk, taking away a prized possession and replacing it with something they found in the garage or in the yard???"

After the room was completed, I thought it was interesting that these people would stand in amazement and say, "Oh my gosh," "Oh my gosh" because there were no other words. There were no tears but I have heard that in some shows there have been.

I'm not saying that a lot of things couldn't be changed and improved where I live but I guess I kind of like all my stuff and where it's setting and Billy hasn't tripped over anything in years.

Now, I look around at who I would like to "trade spaces" with.... not sure I like that idea ... I might let my friend Pat come in — she's great — but then she also knows what I like and knows that I would cry if

certain things changed drastically. Not everything on "Trading Spaces" was terrible. In fact, there are a lot of good ideas and they make everything look simple — so simple that it is done in two days. However, I sure would like to take a closer look at what the finished product really looks like.

Oh well, I found the time I spent in front of the television to be extremely interesting, warm and a good way to spend a few hours. However, if the doorbell rang and that guy in shorts and red tennis shoes was standing there, I would slam the door in a hurry!

Reader wants snow removed for doctor

To the editor:

I think whoever has the authority to remove the snow on East Whittier Street and College Street enroute to our only doctor in town should do so, for her life's sake and possibly someone else's life. This should be

— Letter to the Editor —

the number one priority when it comes to snow removal, along with any other street that she prefers in getting to the hospital or clinic.

Eddie Lauer

News From the Past

90 years ago - 1912

G.J.C. Felzien has moved to his fine farm this week, where he expects to make his home in the future. County Attorney E.E. Kite has purchased the Felzien property in the south part of the city and will move there at once.

Charles Roberts arrived from Deer Park, Wash., Friday and has joined his brother Roll in the barbershop. The town welcomes him.

Lou Waters will soon start the erection of a full set of improvements on his farm.

The final work of finishing the casings of the Citizens State Bank new building is going on this week.

50 years ago - 1952 Effective next year the Northwest Kansas League high school football season will be shortened by two weeks so there will probably be no more games played as late as Thanksgiving Day.

The Cheyenne County State Bank by a stock dividend on Dec. 6 increased capital from \$25,000 to \$50,000. This marks a growth of 500 percent in the 46 year old banking institution's history.

Dale Kelley, manager of the St. Francis Equity, discussed the proposed plans for enlarging the capacity of the elevator, at the semi-annual meeting.

There were many hundreds of people in St. Francis on Saturday for the annual Christmas jackpot drawing. The Chamber of Commerce gave away \$200 in cash on Saturday and then divided an extra \$180 Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, drawing from the

same coupons.

Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy, Fibber McGee and Molly and Lucille Ball are playing in "Look Whose Laughing" at the Cheyenne Theater.

Smoked hams are on sale for the holiday meal at Safeway. They sell for 59 cents per pound.

30 years ago - 1973 Feb

A Ron Evans Day banquet is being held Thursday, Feb. 1. The Apollo 17 Astronaut and his family will arrive in Goodland on the Governor's plane and they will come directly to St. Francis where Captain Evans will present a program for all students in the St. Francis and Bird City school systems. Captain Evans' only other appearance will be at the banquet as NASA has limited the number of appearances due to his schedule.

The 1973 St. Francis Community High School Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow is Jamie Raile.

New Junior Leader officers include Peggy Love, president; Ricky Morris, vice president; Carol Curry, secretary/treasurer and Virginia Bolyard, reporter.

Laurie Mills and Ricky Morris were among the 14 Kansas delegates selected to attend the National Western 4-H Roundup in Denver.

Dr. Bill Pannbacker took over the Republican Valley Veterinary Clinic on Feb. 1. He leased the clinic from Dr. E.J. Keller and Dr. Lee Mills who are retiring from the practice.

Honor Roll

New and renewed Herald subscriptions: Jim Worley, Jamestown, N.D.; Don Worley, Fort Collins, Colo.; Dely Rogers, St. Francis; Earl and Alice Jensen, Hugo, Colo.; Doralene Kidwell, Fullerton, Calif.; Guy Billington, Atwood; Leo Walz, Miami, Fla.; A.L. Inness, Denver, Colo.; G.L. Pershall, Yukon, Okla.; Ervin Rogers, St. Francis.

GOD SAYS

Seek the Lord, and his strength: see his face evermore. Remember his marvelous works that he hath done; his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth.

Psalms 105:4, 5

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Worship Warms the Heart

Wesleyan Church
Hwy 36 • 734-2727
Pastor Scott Baker
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study 7 p.m.

Church of Christ
332-2380, Pars. 332-3424
502 W. Spencer
Norman Morrow - Minister
Bible Class 9 a.m.
Morning Worship 10 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.

Grace Assembly of God
332-2925, Pars. 332-2899
208 E. 2nd
Rev. Rob Meyer
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30
Sunday Eve. Service 6 p.m.

Salem Lutheran Church
332-3002
Pastor Chris Farmer
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Peace Lutheran Church
202 N. College
332-2928 Pars. 332-2308
Pastor David Rossbach
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

First Christian Church
332-2956 • 118 E. Webster
Pastor Richard Garcia
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Church Service 10:30 a.m.
Wed. night Bible Study 7 p.m.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church
332-2888 • 3rd & Adams
Pastor Arlin Cochran
Sabbath School 9:30
Morning Worship 10:45

St. Francis of Assisi
Catholic Church
625 S. River • 332-2680
Fr. Beryl Gibson
Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.
Weekday Mass 8 a.m.
Confessions Sat. 4-4:30

United Methodist
Church Office 332-2292,
Church 332-2254,
Pars. 332-3170
512 S. Scott
Pastor Nel Holmes
Early Bird Service 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

First Baptist Church
2nd & Scott • 332-3921
J.W. Glidewell, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening
Service 6:30 p.m.,
Wednesday prayer
service, 6:00 p.m.
Wed. AWANA Club
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Clough Valley Baptist Church
Pastor Al Davis D. Min.
12 m. west, 6 m. north of SF
332-2506
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. CT
Worship 10:00 a.m. CT

St. Francis Equity

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On the Plains

Idalia News

By
Elsie
Shanks



Beecher Island News

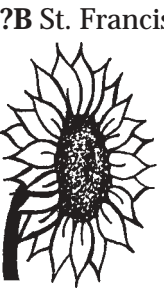
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Haigler News

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At Home
